



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS, TEXAS 75202 – 2733

Office of the Regional Administrator

August 2, 2017

The Honorable John Ratcliffe
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Ratcliffe:

Thank you for your letter dated May 31, 2017, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, regarding the concern of your constituent, (b) (6) over a gas pipeline on (b) (6) property located in (b) (6) Texas. Your letter was forwarded to our office as Texas is under our jurisdiction.

As requested, enclosed is a copy of the response letter we sent to (b) (6). If you have any questions, please contact me at (214) 665-2100, or your staff may contact Mr. Austin Vela, Congressional Liaison, at (214) 665-9792.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Samuel Coleman", is written over the typed name.

Samuel Coleman, P.E.
Acting Regional Administrator

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Cole Moore, Office of Congressman Ratcliffe



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02 AUG 2017

(b) (6)

Your concern over a gas pipeline on your property located in (b) (6) Texas, was forwarded to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from the office of Congressman John Ratcliffe.

We have already contacted you by phone and email to gather additional information and discuss the facts. Based on the information you provided, the EPA determined that we do not regulate the pipeline, and the EPA does not have jurisdiction over the concerns you raised. We referred you to the Pipeline and Hazardous Material Safety Administration (PHMSA) Southwest Regional Office, due to their authority over pipeline transportation of flammable, toxic, or corrosive natural gas. While the Office of Pipeline Safety has authority over these pipelines, authority for intrastate pipelines and distribution pipelines, as well as some gathering pipelines has been delegated to the Texas Railroad Commission for oversight.

The EPA has also reached out to the PHMSA to make them aware of the issue, and they have offered to reach out to the Texas Railroad Commission and assist you with your concerns. In addition, we checked into the complaint you thought you filed with the EPA, and determined the number you provided was actually the identification number of a report you submitted to the National Response Center. I am certain that these other Federal and State agencies will be able to address your complaint.

If you have any questions, please contact Bryant Smalley with U.S. EPA at (214) 665-7368, or James Prothro with PHMSA at (713) 272-2832.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carl Edlund".

Carl Edlund
Director
Superfund Division

cc: Mr. Cole Moore, Office of Congressman Ratcliffe